

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 AID-05 COME-00 EB-12 FRB-03

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

AGR-20 DRC-01 /194 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6274

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MARR, ECON, KS

SUBJECT: 1975 BUDGET MESSAGE

1. PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE IN HIS 1975 BUDGET STATEMENT, WHICH WAS DELIVERED TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 4 BY PRIME MINISTER KIM JONG-PIL, EMPHASIZED MAINTENANCE OF CLOSE SECURITY RELATIONSHIP WITH UNITED STATES AND NEED FOR BETTER RELATIONS WITH JAPAN. MESSAGE FORECAST 8 PERCENT GROWTH IN 1975 AND INCLUDED EIGHT POINT ECONOMIC PROGRAM PLUS OUTLINING HOUSING, ANTI-POLLUTION AND OTHER WELFARE NEEDS.

2. WHILE WELCOMING GENERAL EASING OF TENSIONS IN WORLD PARK WARNED THAT DUE TO COMPLEX COMPETITION AMONG LARGE POWERS SMALL POWERS HAVE INTENSIFIED RIVALRY AND THERE IS INCREASED DANGER OF REGIONAL WAR. HE SAID DPRK HAS TURNED ITS BACK ON PEACE EFFORTS AND COMMITTED PROVOCATIVE ACTS, AND THE YUSHIN REVITALIZING REFORMS AND EMERGENCY MEASURES OF LAST JANUARY AND APRIL WERE NECESSARY COUNTERMEASURES.

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3. PARK EMPHASIZED THAT ROK/US MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY

WAS MAIN AXIS ROKG SECURITY POLICY AND CALLED FOR CONTINUED PRESENCE US ARMED FORCES AND EARLY IMPLEMENTATION MODERNIZATION PROGRAM. HE SAW GOOD RELATIONS WITH JAPAN AS "VITAL", BUT POINTED OUT ROKG WAS CAREFULLY WATCHING HOW WELL JAPAN LIVED UP TO ITS PROMISES. PRESIDENT ALSO REITERATED STANDARD ROK POSITION FAVORING SOUTH/NORTH CONTACT, DUAL ENTRY INTO UN, ETC.

4. ON ECONOMIC FRONT PRESIDENT PARK'S MESSAGE PROMISED PRICE STABILIZING MEASURES, IMPROVED EVERYDAY COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION, AND EFFORTS TO STABILIZE PEOPLE'S LIVES THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION MAJOR CONTENTS JANUARY 14 ECONOMIC DECREE. THERE WERE ALSO PROMISES OF INCREASED EXPORTS, CONTINUED DRIVE TOWARD FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND HIGHER INCOMES FOR FARMERS AND FISHERMEN, HEAVY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT, A NATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL QUALIFICATION SYSTEM TO TRAIN AND SUPPLY TECHNICAL MANPOWER, DEVELOPMENT OF STABLE RESOURCE SUPPLIES, SOCIAL OVERHEAD CONSTRUCTION EMPHASIZING TRANSPORTATION, AND RATIONALIZATION OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT. IN SOCIAL WELFARE FIELD HE PROMISED HEALTH, HOUSING, AND ANTI-POLLUTION EFFORTS.

5. PRESS HAS CARRIED OPPOSITION PARTY SPOKESMAN ATTACK ON SPEECH FOR ITS LACK OF CONCRETE ECONOMIC MEASURES AND ABSENCE ANY CONSIDERATION OF MOUNTING CRITICISM FROM KOREA'S ALLIES. ACCORDING PRESS NDP REGRETTED THAT NO RELIEF WAS PROMISED IN AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND SAID SPEECH WOULD "ACCELERATE ISOLATION OF KOREA."

6. PRESS HAS GIVEN SPEECH MAJOR FRONT PAGE COVERAGE WITH EMPHASIS ON NEED FOR FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH JAPAN. ONLY EDITORIALS SO FAR HAVE BEEN WRITTEN IN LOW KEY.

7. COMMENT: THIS YEAR'S BUDGET MESSAGE IS STRAIGHTFORWARD STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES WITH NO SURPRISES OR MAJOR DEPARTURES. UNLIKE ARMED FORCES DAY SPEECH OCTOBER 1 IT CONTAINED NO STRONG WORDS ABOUT DOMESTIC CRITICS. STATEMENTS REGARDING JAPAN APPEAR MODERATE, ALTHOUGH DIFFERING IN TONE FROM LAST YEAR'S MESSAGE WHEN CLOSENESS RELATIONS WITH JAPAN WAS EMPHASIZED. THIS YEAR'S MESSAGE ALSO DIFFERED FROM LAST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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YEAR'S IN ITS OMISSION OF ANY MENTION OF UN COMMAND AS IMPORTANT FOR MAINTENANCE OF PEACE; PRESIDENT NOTED ONLY THAT PEACE DEPENDENT ON CONTINUED PRESENCE U.S. FORCES IN KOREA.

8. BUDGET ANALYSIS WILL BE FORWARDED BY SEPTTEL.
SNEIDER

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